

In the Claims

1-10 (cancelled)

11. (currently amended) A device for damping pressure surges in a fluid, comprising:

a housing having a longitudinal axis and a connecting piece;

a spring-type accumulator in said housing;

a first piston displaceable in said housing against pretensioning forces of said accumulator;

a second piston displaceable in said connecting piece along said longitudinal axis, said first and second pistons being mechanically uncoupled, said accumulator biasing said first piston such that said first piston exerts a compressive force on said second piston and said pistons are in constant contact with one another in all positions of said pistons and extending axially along an entire length thereof between oppositely axially facing surfaces of said first piston and said housing, said first and second pistons being in a non-overlapping arrangement and extending in opposite directions from abutting surfaces thereof; and

an anti-loss device is attached to said connecting piece at a side of said second piston remote from said first piston.

12. (previously presented) A device according to claim 11 wherein

said first piston has a diameter several times greater than a diameter of said second piston.

13. (previously presented) A device according to claim 11 wherein

said second piston is configured as a stamp inserted through an opening in a housing portion of said connecting piece.

14. (previously presented) A device according to claim 13 wherein
said second piston has a highly machine, lapped outer circumferential surface; and
a gap of a metal thickness extends between said outer circumferential surface of said second
piston and an inner wall of said opening in said housing portion.

15. (previously presented) A device according to claim 11 wherein
said second piston has annular lubricating grooves on an outer circumferential surface
thereof.

16. (previously presented) A device according to claim 11 wherein
said housing comprises a leakage opening extending therein and in fluid communication
with a fluid space between said first and second pistons.

17. (previously presented) A device according to claim 11 wherein
said accumulator is a helical spring.

18. (previously presented) A device according to claim 17 wherein
said accumulator comprises pressurized gas.

19. (previously presented) A device according to claim 11 wherein
said accumulator comprises pressurized gas.

20. (currently amended) A device according to claim 17 wherein
said helical spring extends between and directly engages said first piston and a cover
element mounted inside said housing.

21. (previously presented) A device according to claim 20 wherein
said cover element is a retaining plate retained in said housing by a retaining ring.

22. (currently amended) A device according to claim 11 wherein
said accumulator extends between and directly engages said first piston and a cover element
coupled to said housing.

23. (previously presented) A device according to claim 22 wherein
said cover element is a screw cap screwed on external threads on an outer circumferential
surface of said housing.

24. (previously presented) A device according to claim 11 wherein
said connecting piece has an external diameter small than an external diameter of a
remaining portion of said housing.

25. (new) A device according to claim 22 wherein
said cover element is fixedly coupled to said housing.

26. (new) A device according to claim 20 wherein
said cover element is fixedly coupled to said housing.